CLASSICAL SWINE FEVER
CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR
GREAT BRITAIN

The attached are the contingency plans for dealing with outbreaks of classical swine fever disease in Great Britain, in accordance with Council Directive 2001/89/EC on Community measures for the control of classical swine fever.

Revised  5 Sept 2003
This document sets out the contingency plans for Classical Swine Fever disease as drawn up in 2003 for Great Britain. Defra, the Welsh Assembly Government and the Scottish Executive have responsibility for detailed contingency planning in their own countries. Some elements of the planning are specific to each of their institutional arrangements but are mutually complementary. In the event of a suspected or confirmed case of disease, Defra, SEERAD and NAWAD will ensure close liaison in order to co-ordinate the emergency response process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section No</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Legal powers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Financial provisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The chain of command</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>The national disease control centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>The local disease control centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Communications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>CSF expert groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Personnel resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Availability of equipment and materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Operational instructions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Diagnostic laboratories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Emergency vaccination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Training programmes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Publicity/ disease awareness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Map showing areas of high pig density</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LEGAL POWERS

1.1 The statutory powers for the control of Classical Swine Fever (CSF) are contained in the following legislation: The Classical Swine Fever (England) Order 2003 and parallel legislation in Scotland and Wales.

1.2 THE SLAUGHTER OF INFECTED AND CONTACT ANIMALS AND THE PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION

The ANIMAL HEALTH ACT, Section 31 (1981), provides the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs with power to slaughter animals affected with CSF, or suspected of being affected with CSF, and animals that may have been exposed to CSF virus. The act also specifies the compensation that shall be paid for animals slaughtered for CSF and describes the basis of valuation.

1.3 NOTIFICATION OF SUSPECTED CSF
SANITATION AND OTHER PROCEDURES AT INFECTED PREMISES
THE DESTRUCTION OF CARCASES
THE CONTROL OF MOVEMENTS

The Classical Swine Fever (England) Order 2003 requires the notification of suspicion of CSF and empowers Inspectors of Defra to declare premises on which there is a diseased or suspected animal or carcase to be an infected place. It also provides powers to control the movements of pigs, carcases, equipment, etc. and to require the cleansing and disinfection of any place that may have been used for diseased or suspected pigs. Powers for the seizure and destruction of carcases are contained in the Diseases of Animals (Seizure) Order 1993.

1.4 MOVEMENT RESTRICTIONS ON SUSPICION OF DISEASE
INFECTED AREA PROVISIONS

The Classical Swine Fever (England) Order 2003 allows the Secretary of State to make a declaratory Order to create a temporary control zone where swine fever is thought to exist (ie a restriction notice has been served and samples are being despatched to the laboratory). The zone is subject to restrictions to limit the spread of disease. It also allows the Secretary of State to make a declaratory Order creating a “swine fever infected area” once disease has been confirmed.

1.5 CSF: EU LEGISLATION


Up to now, EU control measures for dealing with CSF have been based on slaughter of infected pigs. However, a cost-benefit analysis carried out after a large outbreak of CSF in Holland in 1997 suggested that the overall costs of eradication might have been reduced with vaccination, as would the number of pigs slaughtered. The new Directive extends the provisions for such vaccination and includes the possibility of using ‘marker’ vaccines.

The key provisions of the Directive which domestic legislation implements are:
• Notification to the competent authority of the Member State if CSF is suspected.
• Imposition of movement controls on suspicion of disease.
• Where disease is confirmed, the imposition of a protection zone (minimum 3km) and a surveillance zone (minimum 10km) around the infected holding.
• Eradication of the disease by slaughter of infected and contact animals and/or vaccination under very strict controls.
• Marker vaccines to allow veterinary authorities to separately identify a vaccinated pig from an infected one.
• Surveillance of any wild boar and feral pigs.

1.6 CSF: GREAT BRITAIN LEGISLATION


1.7 ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS

Local Authorities will enforce and execute the provisions of the Classical Swine Fever (England) Order 2003, unless the legislation makes specific provisions otherwise. Local authorities may be helped in this by other civil organisations. The penalties for not complying with the legislation are detailed in Part V of the Animal Health Act 1981.
FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

2.1 PERSONNEL

The cost of staff employed by Defra (veterinarians, lay support staff in the field, office staff) are covered by monies voted to the Department each year. If additional personnel are required on a detached duty basis, their cost is borne by the Government. Staff recruited from outside Government are paid from an emergency fund (VOTE 3 - CSF). The costs covered in these votes include not only pay but also personnel running costs eg travel and subsistence.

2.2 EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

Procurement and Contracts Division are putting into place Framework Agreements, Contingency Contracts and Capability Contracts with suppliers for the provision of plant, labour and materials. These goods and services for dealing with notifiable diseases will be financed from VOTE 3 - CSF.

2.3 SLAUGHTER, DESTRUCTION OF CARCASES AND CONTAMINATED MATERIAL, SANITATION

These costs are covered by VOTE 3 - CSF.

2.4 COMPENSATION PAYMENTS

Compensation payments, are paid out of VOTE 3 - CSF. Once valuation is agreed payment is authorised by the local administrative officer and passed to HQ (Page Street, London) for payment. Under normal circumstances when there are no problems to resolve, payment is made to the owner not more than 30 days after slaughter.

2.5 EMERGENCY VACCINATION

Where applied, the cost of emergency vaccination (vaccination equipment, staff costs etc) would be borne by VOTE 3 – CSF.

2.6 LIMITS TO BUDGETARY AUTHORITY

The VOTE 3 allocation for CSF is a notional amount. The Treasury must sanction any finance beyond this limit.
THE CHAIN OF COMMAND

3.1 Animal Health is a devolved policy area. However, a concordat arrangement between England, Scotland and Wales provides a single GB wide State Veterinary Service. In any disease outbreak, the three countries will seek to work within an agreed framework reflecting the fact that Great Britain is a single geographical land mass and the role of the SVS as a GB-wide organisation.

3.2 In England, responsibility for the control of CSF rests with the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs who delegates the direction of control strategies to the Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO). The development of policy for the control of CSF is the responsibility of the Animal Movements and Exotic Diseases Division (AMED) and the Veterinary (Exotic Diseases) Division (VEXDD) of the Animal Health and Welfare Directorate of Defra.

3.2.1 SVS (HQ) under the Operations and Service Delivery Directorate General have responsibility for preparation of detailed contingency plans and emergency preparedness. The Director (SVS) is responsible for the implementation of the operational response. The Communications Directorate are responsible for arranging publicity and awareness for notifiable diseases. Divisional Veterinary Managers have responsibility for emergency preparedness at the local level.

3.2.2 The response to a disease alert in England will be controlled using the Strategic, Tactical and Operational command structure.

3.2.3 The Strategic Command consists of Ministers, Permanent Secretary, All Directors General, Directors of: State Veterinary Service, Veterinary Policy, Animal Health and Welfare, Communications, Corporate Services, Finance, Environment Quality and Waste, Rural Economies and Communities, Legal Services A. It also includes representatives from the Prime Minister’s office, Devolved Administrations and other relevant Government Departments. The Strategic level defines, reviews and refines strategies for disease control, communications, relief and recovery.

3.2.4 The National Disease Control Centre (Tactical Command) is the responsibility of the Operations and Service Delivery Directorate General of Defra. It includes representatives from other government departments, devolved administrations, agencies and key stakeholders. The Tactical level is concerned with the tactical approach to disease control, communications, relief and recovery.

3.3 Overall management of the Scottish situation will be by a Disease Strategy Group (DSG) which will be chaired by the Secretary of SEERAD or the Head of Food and Agriculture Group. Its members will consist of senior officials including CVO (Scotland) and the chief Agricultural Officer. The DSG will supervise the handling of the Scottish outbreak and will ensure that Scottish Ministers, the Scottish Parliament and the media are appropriately briefed. Scottish liaison officers will be posted to the National Disease Control Centre.

3.4 The Welsh plan covers operational responsibilities and procedures but the detailed requirements are the same as the Defra plan.

Separate measures will include:
• Notification of the Assistant Chief Veterinary Officer (Wales) and the Head of Common Agriculture Policy Management (Wales) immediately about any outbreak of disease anywhere in Great Britain;

• A programme of regular planning meetings of all interested parties in Wales potentially involved in disease control;

• An Assembly Liaison Officer post in the National Disease Control Centre;

• Separate advice to WAG Ministers so that they can institute action in Wales relevant to local circumstances. Additional responsibilities will be applied to the Regional Operations Director role (Operations Director (Wales) (OD(W)) to reflect the central strategic role the Assembly will carry out under the Government in Wales Act 1998. The OD(W) will operate with the advice of the ACVO (Wales);

• That the OD(W) will establish the Welsh Co-ordination Centre in Cardiff, to provide strategic support at the first indication of disease and provide the main source of communication between relevant agriculture departments and key stakeholders and media in Wales;

• That various Groups within the Assembly will advise Ministers of a variety of policy issues such as access and economic impact;

• The Assembly Government’s responsibilities for secondary legislation.

3.5 Throughout Great Britain, the Local Disease Control Centre (Operational Command in England) is the responsibility of the Divisional Veterinary Manager (DVM) / Regional Operations Director (if appointed) (ROD) at the Animal Health Divisional Office. It includes representatives from relevant agencies, local authorities, other key stakeholders and any other personnel necessary for the operational control of a disease outbreak.
THE NATIONAL DISEASE CONTROL CENTRE (NDCC)

4.1 The National Disease Control Centre will be established on confirmation of a disease outbreak (see Annex 1). The unit is fully equipped with appropriate telephony and IT equipment.

The responsibilities of the NDCC include:

- receiving information on suspected cases;
- providing advice to confirm disease, if needed;
- mapping and recording tracings, dangerous contacts and contiguous premises;
- co-ordinating surveillance;
- identification of operational problems and resolving them;
- commissioning daily situation reports from Local Disease Control Centres;
- preparation of management information reports.

4.2 In the event of an animal disease outbreak, the rapid emergency provision of staff from within core Defra and its associated Agencies will be a key factor in the successful and timely control of the disease. The Defra Management Board will provide clear direction in order that non-essential staff can volunteer their services and be released quickly.

4.3 The Director SVS will maintain a list of Defra middle managers who have the required skills and experience to take up key positions in the NDCC. These individuals will be called upon as soon as disease is confirmed and are expected to take up post as soon as possible (within 24 hours of request). The NDCC will operate within the following structure under the Director of Operations:

- Disease Reporting Unit
- Vet Operations
- Operational Communications
- Non-Veterinary Operations
- Personnel
- Finance
- Vaccination Operations (if required)

The Director SVS will maintain job descriptions for key personnel within these units.

4.4 The CVO will seek advice in controlling a disease outbreak from the CSF Expert Group (see 7.1).
THE LOCAL DISEASE CONTROL CENTRE

5.1 CSF preparedness and control at the local level is the responsibility of the Divisional Veterinary Manager (DVM) / Regional Operations Director (if appointed) (ROD) at the Animal Health Divisional Office which often acts, *inter alia*, as the Local Disease Control Centre. Each Centre is managed by the DVM or ROD who is directly responsible to the Director or Director General of the Operations and Service Delivery Directorate General. In Scotland the DVM and ROD will operate jointly and will report to the Disease Strategy Group. There are 24 centres; the list of Centres, and a map showing the area covered by each is attached at Annex II.

5.2 In the event of a disease outbreak the DVM / ROD may decide to set up a temporary Disease control centre convenient to the disease outbreak.

5.3 The local centres are equipped with the facilities, stores and instructions necessary to undertake the task.

5.4 Standing arrangements are in place for access to major equipment. Procurement and Contracts Division are putting in place regional and local contracts with suppliers to meet the requirements in dealing with notifiable diseases.

5.5 The responsibilities of the local centres during an outbreak are to control and eradicate the disease and return affected premises to a disease-free status by:

- arranging the preliminary investigations (see instructions to staff) and transport of specimens to the diagnostic laboratories;
- liaison with the National Disease Control Centre to determine the extent of the infected area;
- liaising with the police, where necessary, to shut infected premises and with Local Authorities to arrange movement controls and closure or supervision of markets;
- supervising procedures at infected premises (if necessary, valuation, slaughter and disposal of compulsorily slaughtered animals);
- undertaking serological surveillance programmes in the infected zone as required by the Epidemiological team in AHW (DG);
- (where necessary) arranging compensation to stock owners;
- inspection of pig premises in the local area;
- In the event of emergency vaccination being agreed, the execution of the vaccination programme;
- maintaining accurate records for each confirmed infected premises;
- ensuring the accuracy and integrity of the data on the Disease Control System database.

5.6 In the event of an outbreak the Local Authority has responsibility for the enforcement and execution of the legislation unless there are specific provisions therein making otherwise.

5.7 The State Veterinary Service will maintain a database of their veterinary personnel who are able to respond to any animal disease outbreak. On authority from the Director SVS, individuals will be alerted with immediate effect and deployed as instructed by DVMs. In addition vets from other parts of Defra and its agencies, and from other government departments will be alerted and deployed as appropriate. Local Veterinary Inspectors (LVIs) will be used as appropriate. If overseas veterinary resource is deemed
necessary, the CVO will send a formal request to the International Animal Health Emergency Management Reserve Countries and also to EU Member States, if necessary.

5.8 Local Emergency Response Plans include details of key personnel, together with key job descriptions. These individuals will be called upon as soon as disease is confirmed and are expected to take up post as soon as possible (within 24 hours of request). DVMs are responsible for maintaining these lists. Key personnel would include staff for the following sections:

- Tracing
- Epidemiology
- Biosecurity
- Allocations
- Surveillance
- Licensing
- Communications
- Field Operations
- Field Team
- GIS
- DCS (data handling)
- Facilities
- Personnel
- Finance
- Record Control Centre
COMMUNICATIONS

MEDIA

6.1 News Releases about a disease outbreak will be communicated through Communications Directorate Press Office. RODs/ DVMs should ensure that they liaise with their local Government News Network (GNN) representative to ensure that accurate and timely briefings are given to the media and stakeholders. Media in Scotland will be briefed by the Scottish Executive Press Office.

WEBSITE

6.2 Defra's website is a key source of information in the event of an outbreak of disease. Once disease is confirmed, a dedicated site will be established as soon as possible. This is the responsibility of the Head of Animal Movements and Exotic Diseases Policy Division working in co-operation with the Head of News Media in the Communications Directorate.

The website will include –

• News and Information
• A full list of Infected Premises (IPs) updated daily.
• Full details of Infected areas including protection and surveillance zones with interactive maps.
• Full details of disease control measures and restrictions.
• Advice to farmers, local authorities and other rural stakeholders.
• Advice on rural activities.
• Links to relevant websites (e.g. Environment Agency, The Countryside Agency, English Nature, Food Standards Agency, the Devolved Administrations, National Farmers Union, Local Authority sites etc).

Detailed information on Classical swine fever, its cause, control and legislation is already available at

http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/notifiable/disease/classicalswinefever.htm

A parallel website will operate in Scotland.

HELPLINES

6.3 Defra General Helpline (08459 335577) will be escalated as necessary to prepare for intense public interest. This will include identifying staff resources, the need for supplementary helplines plus provision of briefing for helpline staff.

NATIONAL DISEASE CONTROL CENTRE (NDCC)

6.4 The Director (SVS) will establish a National Disease Control Centre as soon as circulation of disease in an area is suspected (see section 4). The NDCC has a pivotal role in providing information and an accurate ground picture. It is responsible for co-ordinating the regional situation reports and collating key statistics to be reported to the wider Government Community.
CSF EXPERT GROUPS

7.1 The CSF Expert Groups would include as a bare minimum the following personnel: epidemiologists, AHW (DG) policy and SVS (HQ) vets/ administrative staff and a member of staff from the diagnostic laboratory (VLA, Weybridge). Other external consultants would be called upon as necessary. The expert group is a Strategic/Tactical level group of specialists who will provide advice to senior management on surveillance programmes, analyse information and advise on control strategies.
PERSONNEL RESOURCES

8.1 A range of measures are in place for Defra to provide staffing in the event of an emergency. This will consolidate informal arrangements which the department has normally relied on. The measures include a volunteers register for non veterinary staff which can be called on if needs be and the ability to seek assistance from other government departments, which has been formally recognised in a central Memorandum of Understanding.

8.2 The Director (SVS) maintains a list of veterinary and technical staff who can be called on in the event of an outbreak of CSF. Further information is at Annex III.

8.3 In addition to these personnel, the Director (SVS) has negotiated stand-by arrangements for veterinarians employed by local authorities and the Meat Hygiene Service. Local Veterinary Inspectors supplemented by temporary veterinary staff would also be used as appropriate. There are also arrangements in place if overseas veterinary staff are required.
AVAILABILITY OF EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

9.1 Detailed instructions and guidance for procurement professionals and action by Procurements and Contracts Division can be found in the Procurement and Contracts Division Contingency Plan.

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL CALL-OFF CONTRACTS

9.2 Procurement and Contracts Division are putting in place, regional and local contracts with suppliers to meet the requirements in dealing with notifiable diseases. PCD will review such contractual arrangements on a regular basis. Consideration to be given to the suitability of national contracts in order to ensure that the suppliers contained remain capable of fulfilling their commitments. A list of such contracts will be placed on the PCD webpages. DVMs/RODs must liaise with PCD to ensure they have adequate contractual cover in the event of an outbreak. The PCD Contingency Plan introduces a local procurement and contracts team to manage these contracts in the event of an outbreak of a notifiable disease. PCD will ensure that the suppliers are:
- readily available to fight the disease;
- of suitable quality to complete the tasks set;
- able to provide best value for money;
- financially vetted;
- capable of providing all required services.

9.3 Local emergency response plans will guide DVMs/RODs to where they can seek advice on procurement procedure.

PURCHASE/ HIRED GOODS REGISTERS

9.4 Following roll out, DVMs/RODs will ensure that the generic purchased/hired register is installed in their respective AHDOs and that staff are familiar with its functionality.
OPERATIONAL INSTRUCTIONS

10.1 A copy of the Operational Instructions to field staff is attached at SVS Chapter 10 (see Annex IV).

11.2 Standing arrangements for the delivery of specimens to the diagnostic laboratory include using national couriers and/or the national airlines where convenient. It is estimated that specimens can be delivered to the laboratories within (8) hours (maximum). Stocks of sampling equipment are held at local disease control centres.
12.1 The EU Directive permits the use of vaccination as a control measure in certain circumstances.

12.2 In the event of a decision to vaccinate against CSF, the supply and use of vaccine would be controlled by the CVO. The decision to vaccinate would very much depend upon the circumstances of the outbreak and the advice offered by the CSF Expert Working Group. If a policy to vaccinate was adopted, further details would be issued to holders of this contingency plan.
13.1 Training for members of staff are as follows:

- All veterinarians joining the veterinary service are given instruction in the control of CSF. The details are given in Annex VI.

- All veterinarians in the service undergo a refresher-training programme as detailed at Annex VI.

- Training for lay personnel who will participate in the operational aspects of CSF control and for office personnel who will staff local disease control centres is undertaken at local level. Details at Annex VI.

13.2 Staff identified as key personnel for the National Disease Control Centre undergo refresher training via a simulated generic epizootic disease outbreak exercise on a regular basis. Local Disease Control Centre staff undergo regular epizootic disease training days. The interval between these training sessions is no greater than 2 years.
14.1 The Defra website has information about CSF at http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/notifiable/disease/classicalswinefver.htm

14.2 Private and SVS veterinarians in the course of their routine visits to their clients' livestock holdings disseminate information about notifiable diseases and disease control strategies. Official visits by SVS veterinary and technical staff include:-

- registration visit to new keepers of livestock;
- investigation of reports of suspected disease;
- welfare inspections on farms;
- advisory and inspection visits to large livestock units, livestock dealers premises, artificial insemination studs, units rearing exotic species and zoological collections;
- attendance at livestock markets and major agricultural shows.

The effect of this system of official advisory and inspection visits is to ensure that all livestock keepers receive advice on statutory disease control procedures and are kept aware of national and international animal disease risks. All holdings with livestock are registered, and receive visits as necessary.

14.3 Information and advice regarding the prevention, diagnosis and control of notifiable diseases is available at all times from the Animal Health Divisional Offices and every report of suspected disease is investigated by a Veterinary Officer who should arrive on the premises within 2 hours of the report being made.
MAP SHOWING AREAS OF HIGH PIG DENSITY

15.1 Map to be scanned in
Pig Population in England

Legend
Number of Pigs in 5 x 5 km square
- 0
- 1 - 1000 or data not disclosable
- 1 - 5000
- 5001 - 15000
- 5001 - 36000

0 20 40 60 80 Miles
ANNEXES TO THE CONTINGENCY PLAN

I. National Disease Control Centre - Address

II. Local Disease Control Centres
    Map showing territory covered and local offices

III. Personnel resources

IV. Operational Instructions

V. Diagnostic laboratories equipped for CSF diagnosis

VI. Training courses - outlines
NATIONAL DISEASE CONTROL CENTRE

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
1A Page Street
London SW1P 4PQ

Head of Centre: Director (SVS)

In the event of a confirmed case of CSF, Operational Staff will be sent details of the Control Centre, including shared email addresses, telephone and fax numbers for key personnel.
LOCAL DISEASE CONTROL CENTRES

STATE VETERINARY SERVICE - ANIMAL HEALTH DIVISIONAL OFFICES

• **North Region**
  • [http://defraweb/animalh/diseases/notifiable/contacts/north.htm](http://defraweb/animalh/diseases/notifiable/contacts/north.htm)

• **East Region**
  • [http://defraweb/animalh/diseases/notifiable/contacts/east.htm](http://defraweb/animalh/diseases/notifiable/contacts/east.htm)

• **West Region**
  • [http://defraweb/animalh/diseases/notifiable/contacts/west.htm](http://defraweb/animalh/diseases/notifiable/contacts/west.htm)

• **Wales**
  • [http://defraweb/animalh/diseases/notifiable/contacts/wales.htm](http://defraweb/animalh/diseases/notifiable/contacts/wales.htm)

• **Scotland**
  • [http://defraweb/animalh/diseases/notifiable/contacts/scotland.htm](http://defraweb/animalh/diseases/notifiable/contacts/scotland.htm)

Map showing territory covered and local offices
[http://defraweb/animalh/diseases/notifiable/reporting.htm](http://defraweb/animalh/diseases/notifiable/reporting.htm)
PERSONNEL RESOURCES

(i) **NUMBER OF STAFF WHO CAN BE CALLED UPON IN THE EVENT OF AN SF OUTBREAK**

All 319 veterinary and 262 technical staff in the State Veterinary Service (SVS) are trained in relevant aspects of CSF Control. Assistance in controlling the outbreak would initially be provided on a regional basis. Depending on the severity of the disease, further staff would be released on a national basis. There are arrangements in place to bring in staff from outside Defra if necessary.

(ii) **NUMBER OF VETERINARIANS TRAINED/EXPERIENCED IN SF CONTROL**

All veterinary staff are trained in control strategies for Classical Swine Fever as part of their veterinary training. Periodic specialist training in the disease will be carried out. Experience has also been gained as part of the involvement in the outbreak of Classical swine fever in East Anglia in 2000.
OPERATIONAL INSTRUCTIONS

Copy of Operational Instructions (Chapter 10) is attached

http://intranet/v1p3r/Chapters/Chap10/Default.htm
Annex V

DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORIES EQUIPPED FOR SF DIAGNOSIS

For Classical swine fever
Veterinary Laboratories Agency
New Haw
Addlestone
Surrey
KT15 3NB

Telephone 01932 341111
GTN 3956
Fax: 01932 347046

For African swine fever
Institute for Animal Health
Pirbright Laboratory
Ash Road
Pirbright
Woking
Surrey
GU24 0NF

Tel: Worplesdon (01483) 232441 - 7
Fax: 01483 232448
Email paul.barnett@bbsrc.ac.uk
TRAINING COURSES - OUTLINES

(i) Veterinary Officer Background Course

A 2-week course for all new-entrant VOs divided between the Veterinary Laboratories Agency and Headquarters (HQ). The objectives of this background course is to introduce the VOs to the standard procedures that operate at the VLA and at Headquarters. This course is not specific for CSF as it covers all of the work undertaken by the State Veterinary Service. During this course, they will also cover the control strategies that would be available for use should any notifiable disease, such as CSF, be confirmed.

Veterinary staff will also undertake Continuing Professional Development (CDP) Courses, attend conferences and seminars and the scope of these could include CSF.

The Director General of Operations and Service Delivery, Director SVS and DVMs ensure their staff are familiar with contingency arrangements and the relevant local emergency response plans, VIPER Chapter 10 and relevant emergency instructions and business process maps.

(ii) Institute for Animal Health, Pirbright, Courses

One day courses are organised at this centre and they will include a theoretical session and a practical session for some of the exotic diseases, eg CSF. Both new entrant and established veterinary officers attend these courses.

(iii) Training at HQ, Regions and Divisions

EMERGENCY FIRST RESPONSE TEAMS (ADMINISTRATION)

Teams of administrative staff at HQ are available ‘on call’ to respond to confirmation of notifiable disease. These teams undertake refresher training and participate in trial outbreak exercises at regular intervals.

VETERINARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Personnel who would be involved in the National Disease Control Centre and Local Disease Control Centres take part in training and disease outbreak exercises. The exercises will include SVS staff, administrative staff, operational partners and stakeholders.